



Town of Kittery, Maine

Town Planning and Development Department

200 Rogers Road, Kittery, ME 03904

Telephone: (207) 439-0459 Fax: (207) 439-6806

www.kittery.org

To: Town Council and Jon Carter, Town Manager

From: Gerry Mylroie, ACIP, Town Planner

Date: June 15, 2011

Re: Grant Application for Increased Citizen Participation in Town Planning and Development.

Executive Summary

Will the Town Council authorize the submittal of an application to the Orton Family Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to pay for two years of town planning services to improve citizen participation in the planning process that requires a 1:1 match to be achieved by existing budgeted personnel and other items in the amount of at least \$50,000 as well as in-kind and other contributions over the two years?

Statement of Need

Additional resources are required to perform critical town planning citizen participation functions given budget cutbacks.

Background/Facts Bearing on the Issue

The Orton Family Foundation based in Vermont was formed in 1995 to help citizens in small cities and towns in New England and the Rocky Mountains to address the challenges of planning for their future. This includes enabling wide citizen participation in reaching agreement on what we want and how to achieve it. The Foundation is inviting proposals by July 11, 2011.

Current Situation

More and wider citizen participation is desired when making plans for the future and reaching agreement on how to implement them. This grant funding will achieve this via the use of increased communication, workshops, networking, internet applications, and other methods to engage citizens of all ages and interests. Competition for the funding will be extreme, but well worth the effort. Implementing the grant activities will be integrated with ongoing work with the Town Planning Board, Economic Development and all other committees and hopefully the Town Council.

Proposed Solution / Recommendation

Town Council move authorize the submittal of an application to the Orton Family Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to pay for two years of town planning services to improve citizen participation in the planning process that requires a 1:1 match to be achieved by existing budgeted personnel and other items in the amount of at least \$50,000 as well as in-kind and other contributions over the two years?